

Unto his Grace Her Majesty's high  
Commissioner and the Right Honourable  
Estates of Parliament.

T H E

The Humble Address of the Presbytrie of  
Lanerk.

SHEWETH

**T**HAT We having seen the Addresses made by the Commission of the General Assembly to Your Grace and Lordships; It may Appear unnecessary, that We should give Your Grace and the Honourable Estates of Parliament any Trouble that way: Were it not, that We hold Our selves bound in Duty and Conscience, at this Juncture, to Concur; and do hereby Concur with Our Brethren in the same. But moreover, the Duty We owe to Our most Gracious Sovereign, and to You Our Representatives, and Lawful Governours, Obliges Us to Represent the State of the Country, within the Bounds of this Presbytrie; who are so much Allarmed with the Impressions they have gotten of Scotland and England's being United in one Kingdom, and that the United Kingdom be Represented by one and the same Parliament, which They look upon as Destructive to the True Interest of the Nation, as well as the Church. This has Created such a Ferment amongst them; that tho' We do all that's possible to keep them within the Just Limits of their Station, and by Our unwearied Diligence have hitherto prevented Irregularities: Yet, if Your Grace and the Honourable Estates of Parliament proceed, according to the Scheme of the Printed Articles of Union, We dread the Fatal Consequences thereof! But for Our part, We are so far from being against all Union with Our Neighbouring Nation of England, that We very earnestly Desire a good Agreement, and such a Firm Union with them, as may be Honourable to the State, Safe to the Church, and Beneficial to both. And as We heartily Pray for Her Majesty's Long Life and Prosperity; so are we most Desirous of a Happy Settlement of a Protestant Successor, under such Just and Reasonable Limitations or Provisions, as the Circumstances of this Kingdom do necessarily Require, and the Wisdom of the Parliament will See to, Order and Enact. Only, as Ministers, SCOTSMEN, and Subjects of this Free and Independent Kingdom, We cannot but Wish and Pray, That Our Civil Government may be Rectified, as to the Execution of Good Laws, without being Dissolved; Our Monarchy may be Regulated and Limited, without being Suppressed; Our Parliament may be Secured from English Influence, without being Extinguished; and the Just Rights and Liberties of the Nation, as to Laws, Trade, and all other Concerns, may be Asserted; without being Resigned in Bulk, to the Will and Disposal of a British Parliament, who are Strangers to Our Constitution, and who may Judge it for the Interest of Britain, to keep Us Low, and entirely Subject unto them; not only in these things that are Unitable, but likewise in all these, that of their own Nature are Separat, and demand a Solid Security to keep them so.

*Therefore, as We do with Gratitude Acknowledge, what Your Grace and Lordships have already done for the Security of the Church: So We are most Earnest and Humble Supplicants, That Your Grace and the Honourable Estates of Parliament, may Consult the Peace of the Country: And further consider the several Articles of the Address of the Commission of the General Assembly, of which there is no Notice taken in the Act for Security of the Church: And prevent the above mentioned Union; which We humbly Judge contrar to Our known Principles and Covenants; and otherways will be Destructive to the Church and Nation, if We want the Guardianship of a Scots Parliament.*

*Sic Subscribitur*

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